

## Gulf of Mexico

Segment: 2501 Gulf of Mexico

**Basin number:** 24  
**Basin group:** E  
**Water body description:** From the Gulf shoreline to the limit of Texas jurisdiction between Sabine Pass and the Rio Grande  
**Water body classification:** Classified  
**Water body type:** Ocean  
**Water body length / area:** 3,879 Sq. miles  
**Water body uses:** Aquatic Life Use, Contact Recreation Use, General Use, Fish Consumption Use, Oyster Waters Use

<b>Standards Not Met in 2002</b>				
<b>Assessment Area</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Support Status</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Category</b>
Bolivar Point to Port Aransas	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Jefferson-Chambers County line area	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Near Bolivar Roads/Bolivar Point	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Port Aransas area	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Port Isabel area	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Port Mansfield area	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a
Sabine Pass area	Fish Consumption Use	Not Supporting	mercury in king mackerel > 43 inches	5a

<b>Standards Not Met and Concerns in Previous Years</b>				
<b>Assessment Area</b>	<b>Use</b>	<b>Support Status or Concern</b>	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Category</b>
Sabine Pass area	Aquatic Life Use	Partially Supporting	depressed dissolved oxygen	5c

**Additional Information:** The contact recreation, and general uses are fully supported. The oyster waters use was not assessed.

(based on data from 03/01/1996 to 02/28/2001)

This segment was identified on the 2000 303(d) List as partially supporting the aquatic life use due to depressed dissolved oxygen in several areas. Because an insufficient number of 24-hour dissolved oxygen values were available in 2002 to determine if the criterion is supported, this segment will be identified as not meeting the standard for dissolved oxygen until sufficient 24-hour measurements are available to demonstrate support of the criterion.

<b>Monitoring sites used:</b>		
<b>Assessment Area</b>	<b>Station ID</b>	<b>Station Description</b>
Jefferson-Chambers County line area	13463	GULF OF MEXICO AT JEFFERSON-CHAMBERS COUNTY LINE
Near Bolivar Roads/Bolivar Point	13465	GULF OF MEXICO AT GALVESTON IN CHANNEL NEAR BUOY R6
Near Bolivar Roads/Bolivar Point	14296	GULF OF MEXICO IN BOLIVAR ROADS NEAR BIG REEF, 0.85KM EAST OF CM11
Near Bolivar Roads/Bolivar Point	16536	GULF OF MEXICO EAST BEACH NEAR WESTERN ENTRANCE TO APPEEL PARK (EAST BEACH ROAD) ON GALVESTON ISLAND
Near Bolivar Roads/Bolivar Point	16672	GULF OF MEXICO OUT FROM JUNCTURE OF EAST BEACH RD AND SEAWALL BLVD IN GALVESTON
Port Aransas area	13468	GULF OF MEXICO AT PORT ARANSAS NEAR END OF SOUTH JETTY NEAR MARKER R-7
Port Isabel area	13470	GULF OF MEXICO AT PORT ISABEL, JUST BEYOND JETTIES AT BELL BUOY
Port Mansfield area	13469	GULF OF MEXICO AT PORT MANSFIELD, JUST BEYOND JETTIES AT BELL BUOY
Sabine Pass area	13461	GULF OF MEXICO SABINE PASS BETWEEN JETTIES AND ADJACENT TO TEXAS POINT

<b>Historical fish kills:</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Fish Killed</b>	<b>Suspected Cause</b>
3/18/1996	From Bolivar Roads to Gulf of Mexico	150	Pollutant
5/15/1996	Gulf Coast from Louisiana to Matagorda Bay area	1000000	Disease
5/16/1996	Isla del Sol (canal)/Gulf of Mexico	1000	Low Dissolved Oxygen
9/5/1997	Gulf of Mexico 0.25 miles off the Galveston jetties, moving westward	100000	Physical Damage/Trauma
9/17/1997	Gulf of Mexico west of swing bridge on Sargent Beach	148000	Disease
10/31/1997	Port Mansfield Pass S to Access Rd 5, Andy Bowie Park, Gulf of Mexico	26400	Disease
11/5/1997	Padre Island National Seashore from mile marker 40 to mile marker 63	120000	Disease
7/21/1998	Gulf of Mexico at Sea Rim State Park	150000	Physical Damage/Trauma